



The following briefing notes **update** the "Preliminary" issue sent to teams in December. They cover both days of the "NZDBA National Dragon Boat Regatta". That is, unless otherwise indicated, they apply to the Saturday (adult racing) and Sunday (Schools).

Contents

1	Team information and advice.....	2
	Date:	2
	Entry Fees:	2
	Captains Briefing:	2
	Race times:	2
	Registration:	2
	Site Facilities:	2
	Race Schedule and distances:	2
	Paddles:	3
	Location:	3
	Categories/ Criteria:	4
	Team Composition:	4
	Qualifying for Finals:	5
	Rules of Racing:	5
	Water Safety:	5
	First Aid:	5
	Sweeps:	5
	Prizes:	6
	Uniforms:	6
	Alcohol & Drugs:	6
	Clean-up:	6
	Security:	6
	Protests:	6
	Boats and Paddles:	7
	Transport and Accommodation:	7
	After Party:	8
	Program for the night:	8
	Organisers:	8
2	Safety and Liability Waiver	See separate Word document
3	Registration form	See separate Word document

1 Team information and advice

The Team Manager/Captain/Sweep Briefing is mandatory. It is at the Race Control tent, 8:00 am (Saturday and Sunday).

Date:	Saturday 26-March-11.....Adults AND High Schools Sunday 27-March-11 No racing
Entry Fees:	Entries are now closed.
Captains Briefing:	Race Control tent, 8:30 am (Saturday).
Race times:	First race starts at 9:00 am, Last race (approx) 5:30 pm.
Registration:	Teams and paddlers should be pre-registered, using the form attached. You should have already emailed Passport sized ID Photos to secretary@nzdba.co.nz for use in crew verification at Crew Loading. Late changes can be made at the Race Control tent. Note that all teams competing at the Nationals: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• must be current financial members of NZDBA, and• they must have competed in at least one sanctioned 500 metre regatta (see www.nzdba.co.nz for qualifying events).
Site Facilities:	A tent or marquee is allocated to each team (although they may not be fully partitioned). Two toilet blocks are available on the Reserve, and Portaloos are positioned near the tents and marshalling area. Food vendors are on site and will include coffee cart, Burgers, frozen juices and other foods.
Race Schedule and distances:	A list of race start times will be emailed to team managers as soon as it is available. Rnd 1: 500 m Heat 1 Rnd 2: 500 m Heat 2 Rnd 3: 500 m Finals Rnd 4: 200 m Heat 1 Rnd 5: 200 m Heat 2 (if there are delays, NZDBA may cancel Heat 2) Rnd 6: 200 m Finals Rnd 7: 2,000 m Finals (in 'flights' of 8 to 10 boats). Timed results from two 500 m races will determine which final a team will race in. If the judges determine that it was not a fair race (such as a false

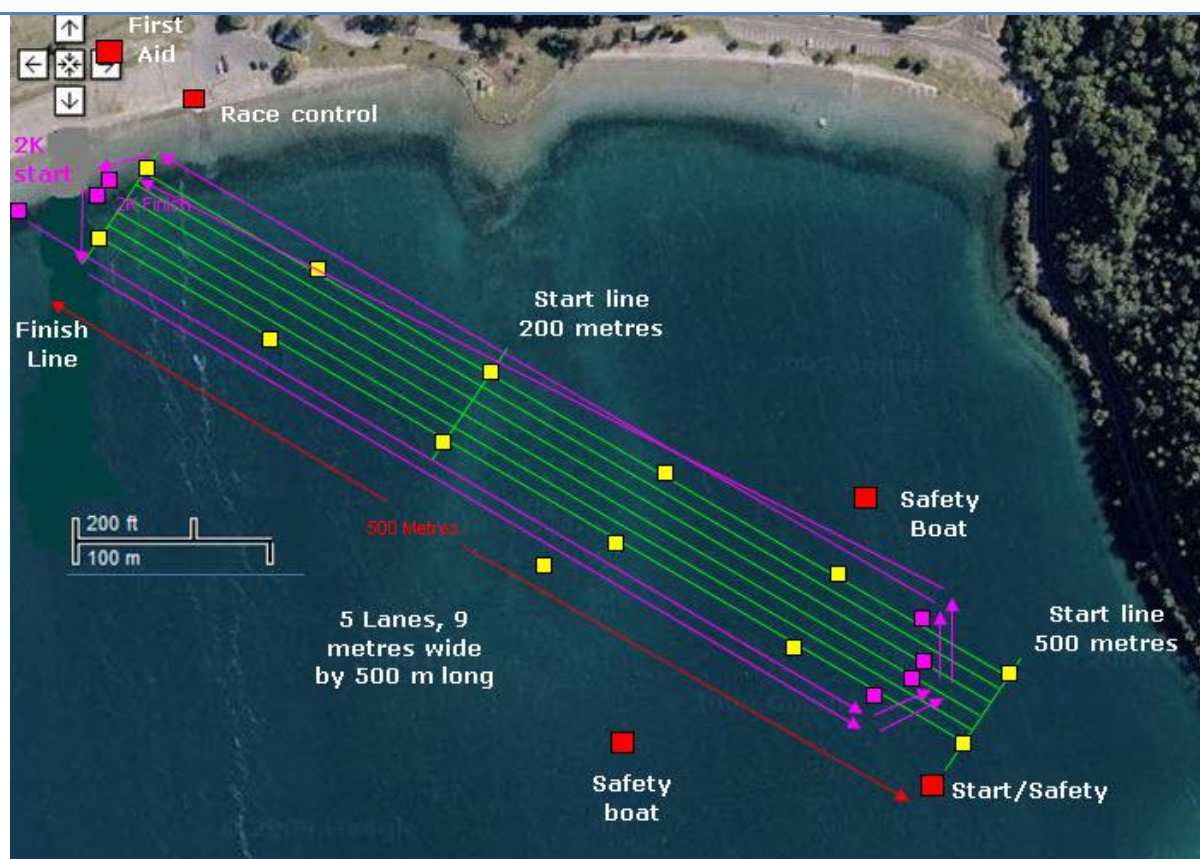
start or gear failure) they may, at their sole discretion, re-run a race or modify a team's effective time in a heat.

The results of the "Champion of Champions" will rely **ONLY** on the 500 m results.

The 500 m Finals results count towards League Table grading, and the 200 m results will carry a (lesser) weighting.

One round of 200 m sprint results will determine a team's position in the corresponding 200 m Finals. Note, NZDBA may choose to add a second heat. Trophies will be presented for the sprints.

Round 7 will be a series of purely time-based races, with a multi-turn 2,000 m course. No heats. Fastest wins.



Paddles: Teams provide their own paddles.
IDBF specifications 202a (wood or fibre-glass or carbon) paddles ARE NOW MANDATORY.

Location: Blue Lake (Tikitapu) is about 10 km south east of Rotorua (see attached map).

Transport to and from Rotorua (and the Lake) and from your home locations is an individual/team responsibility.



Categories/ Criteria:

All teams compete in the same heats.

Adult Mixed teams compete against each other in the same Grand Finals.

Breast Cancer Survivor teams race in a separate Grand Final. Remember the entire crew (including Drummer and Sweep) must be a BC Survivor. If you cannot provide a BCS Sweep, NZDBA will allocate a [pool sweep](#) (click for a list).

This year there will also be a Women's Division Grand Final – there are 4 entries.

Girls, Boys and Mixed race in separate GFs.

Team Composition:

All crews must have a minimum 16 paddlers plus a drummer and a sweep.

Of the maximum 20 paddlers, a Mixed crew shall carry a minimum of 8 female paddlers.

A Team (squad) may consist of a maximum of 26 members (note this was previously 25).

Qualifying for Finals:

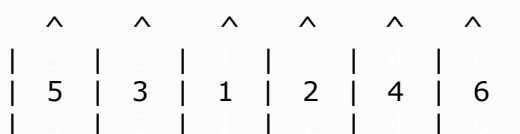
This year, teams will be allocated Heats and Lanes based on their rankings from the season, such that top teams will not be in the same heats. They will, in all likelihood, meet in the Final.

All heats will be timed, such that teams will be allocated to Finals on the basis of accumulated heats results.

All heat times will count toward determining which final each team competes in. That is, it is no longer the "three fastest times from the four heats". As stated in "Race Distance", the Race Judge may allocate a modified heat time if a team is, say, interfered with or otherwise disadvantaged. Or they may choose to re-run a race.

That time also determines which lane they race in, that is;

- Fastest qualifier will draw the centre lane,
- Second fastest will be in the lane to their right,
- Third fastest on the left and so on.



Note, the number of race lanes and their layout is at the discretion of the Race Director – this may change dependant on the weather etc.

Rules of Racing:

Standard NZDBA Rules of Racing

Water Safety:

Sweeps are responsible for crew safety and must be familiar with NZDBA safety guidelines (attached).

In particular, they must be familiar with the Capsize and man-overboard procedures. The Captain's Briefing will cover site-specific hazards and procedures.

All Paddlers **must** be able to swim at least 50 metres comfortably. They must read, understand and sign the safety waiver before racing.

Paddlers may wear approved style PFDs. As per Maritime Rule 91, we recommend Type 403 (NZS5823) buoyancy vest which provide flotation while allowing the wearer to escape a capsized.

First Aid:

Medical personnel (such as St Johns Ambulance) will be on duty, and will circulate around crew tents.

Sweeps:

NZDBA may be able to provide an accredited sweep if necessary.

Prizes:	<p>Medals (Gold, Silver and Bronze) will be awarded to crew members in the top Grand Final.</p> <p>Gold, Silver and Bronze medals will also be awarded in the BC Grand Final.</p> <p>Trophies will be awarded to all category winners.</p> <p>Note: Presentation for the School Divisions will take place immediately after the last race, on the Crew Loading beach in front of the tents – we ask adult crews to stay and support the Schools. Adult Prize Giving will take place at the after-function at the Rotorua RSA, with medal ceremony starting at 7:30 pm.</p>
Uniforms:	<p>All teams must wear a distinguishable uniform during races (e.g. caps, T-shirts etc). Allowances will be made for any crew wearing PFDs</p>
Alcohol & Drugs:	<p>NZ Dragons Boat Association has a zero tolerance policy when it comes to alcohol - alcohol and water sports do not mix.</p> <p>Moreover, NZDBA has a zero tolerance to drugs (except medically prescribed therapeutic drugs). World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) rules apply – see IDBF website.</p> <p>If any individual is caught consuming alcohol or drugs during the regatta the ENTIRE team will be disqualified from the competition.</p>
Clean-up:	<p>All teams are required to clean up their area at the end of the day. If your site is not cleaned to a satisfactory standard, you will be charged a \$200 clean up fee.</p>
Security:	<p>Teams are responsible for the security of their valuables.</p> <p>BE WARY: the lake is an open venue, so we recommended you leave any valuables at home and allocate a person to mind your gear whilst you are racing.</p>
Protests:	<p>Must be lodged within 15 minutes in writing with a fee of \$100 (which is non refundable, if the decision stands) to the Race Director (Natalie Fowlie).</p>
Marshalling:	<p>Race Crew should be in the pre-marshalling area at least 20 minutes prior to their race Start time.</p> <p>If a crew is not ready, the race will start without them.</p> <p>The marshals will direct the crews to their allocated boats – each crew must use the boat allocated.</p> <p>Crews members shall line up in reverse order to how they sit in the boat i.e. Sweep is in the front of the line, Seat 10 paddlers are next, through to the stroke paddlers (front of the boat) who will be in the</p>

	back of the marshalling line. The drummer is the last one in line.
Race Draw:	Race start times will be emailed to team managers. Updates or Corrections will be announced at the Captain's Briefing. If there are significant changes, NZDBA may print revised versions. In any case, team captains should listen for changes announced on the PA.
Boats and Paddles:	<p>IDBF certified "Champion" fibreglass Dragon Boats, supplied courtesy of NZDBA in association with Auckland Dragon Boat Association.</p> <p>As above, teams BYO paddles, but paddles can be provided IF advance notice is given.</p> <p>IDBF Spec paddles are now mandatory.</p>
Drummers:	All crews must carry a drummer (i.e. "caller").The drummer must actively drum for the entire race.
Race Start:	<p>The starter will line up the boats. Once the boats are in line, the commands will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Are You Ready [followed by 1 to 5 second pause] then• Attention [followed by 1 to 5 second pause] and then• hooter will signify the start of the race.
Safety:	<p>On-water safety will be provided by a chase boat. Paramedics will be in attendance on shore.</p> <p>Teams are reminded that any paddlers under the influence of alcohol will not be permitted to race.</p>
Shelter and Water:	<p>Protection (in the form of a tent or marquee) will be provided. Each team will have an area allocated (although they may not be fully partitioned). Please look for your team label.</p> <p>Drinking water will be provided in the Team Tent area and at marshalling. Please remember to drink lots of water.</p>
Sunscreen:	<p>Ensure your team members all SLIP, SLOP, SLAP.</p> <p>Be Sun Smart!</p>
Transport and Accommodation:	Teams are responsible for their transport from their home town to Rotorua.

After Party: Once the Saturday's racing is over, teams will have a short break before the Prize Giving and night's celebrations.

The venue is Rotorua RSA, which is 1072 Haupapa Street, Rotorua 3010 (i.e. central Rotorua).

Program for the night: Get settled in early, reserve a possie, have a nice feed and have some fun.

The band ("Sweet Echo") will play till 1 am. Quiet areas are available for those that want to brag about their achievements of the day!

We expect around 400 paddlers, and the RSA Chef (Crowther House Restaurant) will cater for a minimum of 200 at a cost of \$19 per head. This is a carvery with a selection of hot meat, hot veges and salads plus dessert. Please contact us to indicate how many of your team will be interested in the meal.

Bar Prices are very reasonable - even cheaper than 2009! Domestic brews are \$4.30 a pint, and \$3.30 for a glass of wine. RTDs and stubbies are at normal bar prices (EFTPOS is available at the bar). Tea and coffee is also served.

Teams must obey RSA House Rules, including:

- respect for the RSA Ode, recited at 9 pm.
- RSA Dress standard. That is, shorts and sandals or jandals are fine. Shirts must have a collar. No head wear.
- Minimum age is 18 years.

Organisers: For any enquiries, see NZ Dragon Boat Association. Email nz.dragonboat.association@gmail.com or secretary@nzdba.co.nz Website: www.nzdba.co.nz

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